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Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Addis Ababa, 9-11 April 2014

Draft report

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African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Addis Ababa, from 9 to 11 April 2014

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 56/119, on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, the General Assembly decided that each congress should be preceded by regional preparatory meetings; and also decided to call future congresses United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice.

2. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which had met in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006, stressed the importance of regional preparatory meetings as a key preparatory tool for the congresses and as a conduit to incorporate regional concerns and perspectives into their preparation. The Group noted that, despite globalization and the increasingly transboundary nature of criminality, different regions of the world continued to harbour different concerns, which they wanted to see properly reflected in the consideration of various topics by the congresses (E/CN.15/2007/6, para. 23).

3. In its resolution 67/184, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in those meetings and in the Thirteenth Congress itself, in accordance with past

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practice and in consultation with Member States. The General Assembly encouraged the relevant United Nations programmes, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Thirteenth Congress.

4. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, to prepare a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth Congress and for the Congress in a timely manner, and invited Member States to be actively involved in that process. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered a draft discussion guide at its twenty-second session. In its resolution 68/185 of 17 October 2013, the General Assembly took note with appreciation of the draft discussion guide and requested the Secretary-General to finalize the discussion guide in a timely manner, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission, as well as additional comments and feedback from Member States, in order to enable the regional preparatory meetings for the Thirteenth Congress to be held as early as possible in 2014. The final discussion guide (A/CONF.222/PM.1) was issued in July 2013.

5. In its resolution 67/184, the General Assembly also encouraged Governments to undertake preparations for the Thirteenth Congress at an early stage and by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees. It urged participants in the regional preparatory meetings to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Thirteenth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the draft recommendations and conclusions for consideration by the Congress. In its resolution 68/185, the General Assembly urged Governments to invite their representatives to do so and to actively participate in the regional preparatory meetings, where appropriate.

II. Conclusions and recommendations

6. The African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice agreed that the action-oriented recommendations presented below, reflecting the African perspective, should be considered when preparing the draft declaration to be submitted to the Congress.

7. [*Insert general conclusions or recommendations on issues other than those covered under the substantive items or workshop topics*].

A. Substantive items and workshops

1. Item 3 of the agenda of the Congress: Successes and challenges in implementing comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and to support sustainable development

8. The Meeting underlined the importance of taking into account the specific situation, concerns and challenges faced by African States in responding to crime and fostering the rule of law. Limited financial and human resources were available to address the many priorities and demands placed on African States. Those included the need to tackle multiple forms of crime affecting the continent, including drug and arms trafficking, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, piracy, trafficking in cultural property, illicit trafficking in fauna and flora, cybercrime, counterfeiting of medicines and other forms of smuggling or trafficking. The control of vast territories and of extensive and porous land and maritime borders, as well as ongoing or recent experiences of armed conflict, posed additional challenges in different Member States of the region.

9. Recognizing the importance of security, justice and the rule of law as enabling conditions for sustainable and equitable development, the Meeting noted that the establishment of the rule of law was a process requiring constant efforts and that many African States were currently at the stage of consolidating their criminal justice systems with the aim of establishing or improving the rule of law. Engaging actively in the 13th United Nations Crime Congress was therefore crucial, taking into account the positive contributions that the Congress was expected to make to national and international efforts to promote the rule of law and development.

10. The Meeting acknowledged the centrality of crime prevention and criminal justice issues for the rule of law, which should aim at reducing the incidence of criminal conduct and the zones where the rule of law was not yet firmly established.

11. Th Meeting supported the inclusion of specific goals on the rule of law, security and justice as part of the post-2015 Development Agenda, including crime prevention and criminal justice elements, freedom from violence and good governance.

12. Recognizing the importance of evidence-based rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice reform strategies, the Meeting underlined the need to draw on national gender- and age-disaggregated crime and victimization data and statistics.

13. The Meeting recommended that UNODC should build on its expertise in collecting crime data and developing indicators, to develop appropriate indicators on the rule of law, crime and violence prevention and criminal justice. This would enable Member States to measure and compare the impact of their criminal justice policies and strategies on the strengthening of the rule of law and development.

14. The Meeting emphasized that criminal justice systems and reform initiatives should be in compliance with human rights, especially fair trial rights, based on the principle of independence of the judiciary from the executive and the presumption of innocence.

15. Given the crucial role of defence lawyers, the Meeting recommended that access to legal aid for indigent defendants be guaranteed, in line with the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems.

16. The Meeting recommended that criminal justice reform efforts should focus on strengthening institutions and human resources, including by providing necessary equipment and by building the capacity of professionals, including police officers, investigators, prosecutors, judges and prison staff. The establishment and training of specialized law enforcement units to address complex and emerging forms of crime was referred to as a good practice, together with the establishment of forensic laboratories. The computerization of judicial procedures was considered another important aspect of improving the functioning of criminal justice systems, as it could contribute to greater efficiency, transparency and access to justice.

17. Member States in the region were encouraged to include in national plans on gender and the advancement of women, measures to address women's access to justice, as well as women's adequate representation in the criminal justice system. Good practices in this regard included the use of female police officers or investigators in dealing with women victims of violence or in crowd control when women were among the demonstrators.

Workshop 1. Role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems: experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders

18. Recognizing the high incidence of victimization of women and children, especially as victims of domestic and sexual violence, the Meeting encouraged Member States to collect and analyse data in order to enable criminal justice agencies to identify and respond to those types of crimes and address the needs of victims.

19. The Meeting acknowledged that crime and violence against women and children required a comprehensive approach and joint efforts by the criminal justice system and other sectors of government, such as social and health departments, as well as civil society and the media, in order to provide victims with assistance, protection and access to justice, while addressing the root causes that might include unemployment, poverty, family failure, depending on the specific context.

20. The Meeting recommended that Member States share information on and good practices of promising reintegration projects of prisoners into society and train prison staff on rehabilitation and social reintegration approaches.

21. Recognizing the challenges faced by prison administrations in many Member States in meeting the specific health care and other needs of women prisoners, including pregnant women or women prisoners with young children, the Meeting invited Member States to adopt relevant policies and measures in line with the 2010 United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and United Nations standards

and norms applicable to the administration of justice for children. In this regard, the Meeting stressed the importance of separating women prisoners from men and children from adults.

22. Highlighting the need to establish a juvenile justice system focused on the protection of minors in conflict with the law, the Meeting referred to specific challenges, such as dealing with unaccompanied migrant children or responding to crimes committed by minors against minors. Member States were invited to promote the use of alternative measures, such as diversion and restorative justice, and ensure compliance with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should only be used as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children, and to provide support and services for children deprived of their liberty prior and after release in order to promote their rehabilitation and reintegration into the community.

23. The Meeting called on Member States and the relevant United Nations agencies to collect relevant information concerning children alleged or accused of or recognized as having infringed the penal law, in particular children deprived of their liberty, so as to improve the administration of juvenile justice.

2. Item 4 of the agenda of the Congress: International cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime

24. The Meeting recalled the importance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and of the legal instruments against terrorism. It also encouraged Member States who have not yet done so to ratify those instruments and in particular to give effect to their provisions in practice, taking into consideration the difficulties some Member States are facing in the region, in particular conflicts and economic crises.

25. The Meeting highlighted the need to harmonize legislation at the regional and international levels, to support more efficient cooperation. It also advocated for efficient international cooperation and the strengthening of bilateral and regional cooperation, through the conclusion of bilateral or regional agreements towards combating transnational organized crime, for the purposes of exchange of information, mutual legal assistance, extradition and mutual technical assistance and exchange of good practices.

26. The Meeting underscored the need to promote cooperation with regional and international organizations to strengthen international cooperation and contribute to sustainable development.

27. The Meeting highlighted the need to address cross border cooperation, exploring the establishment of joint units along the borders to enhance operational cooperation to protect borders and deal with illicit flows. It encouraged cooperation through existing regional cooperation mechanisms and encouraged such regional mechanisms and/or organizations to share information within their membership but also across regions.

28. The conclusion of MoUs or bilateral agreements was also highlighted for its potential in dealing effectively with terrorism and piracy.

29. The Meeting recommended that African States be called upon to cooperate under AFRIPOL, which had been established under the Common African Policy on

Security of the Africa Union. The Meeting also called upon UNODC to extend technical and scientific assistance to AFRIPOL to strengthen international cooperation.

30. The Meeting highlighted regional practices in Africa, which supports international cooperation to combat transnational organized crime. Member States mentioned initiatives such as SADC, EAC, SARPCCO, EAPCCO, ECOWAS and ECCAS. In particular, the West Africa Coast Initiative (WACI) was mentioned, as a good practice of multi-stakeholder approach. UNODC, UNOWA/DPA, DPKO and INTERPOL set up WACI to work in synergy to support the implementation of the "ECOWAS Regional Action Plan to Address the Growing Problem of Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime, and Drug Abuse in West Africa". An element of the WACI was highlighted, namely the establishment of a Transnational Organized Crime Unit (TOCU) in each country (Ivory Coast, Guinea Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone). The national inter-agency unit gathers and analyses information, and develops operational intelligence to support its lead investigative role in the most complex crime cases. UNODC, DPKO/Police Division and INTERPOL provide advisory and mentoring to selected and vetted national staff.

31. The Meeting invited UNODC and all relevant international organizations to support the African Union in the implementation of its Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013-2017) to contribute to the global efforts to combat transnational organized crime.

32. The Meeting underscored the discrepancy between the capacity of transnational organized crime groups and the financial and human resources available to national authorities in charge of dealing with transnational organized crime. The capacity of transnational organized crime groups to undermine safety and security and state authorities was in particular highlighted.

33. The Meeting identified the need to look at the links between corruption, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, drug trafficking, arm trafficking, terrorism, piracy and emerging forms of crime.

34. The Meeting called for technical assistance, to be provided by UNODC and other technical assistance providers, in dealing with transnational organized crime areas for those Member States that need capacity-building of local authorities. While highlighting challenges linked to staff turnover and its negative impact on the sustainability of the impact of training sessions, training of trainers was mentioned as a good practice.

35. The Meeting recommended that all Member States be called upon to take into account requests for mutual legal assistance, including in the area of corruption, and make sure that competent authorities can react to requests, since corruption causes a great drain on the resources of the State and undermines its authority.

36. The Meeting called upon Member States to maximize assistance and strengthen their capacity in the area of asset recovery, in particular in relation to corruption.

37. The Meeting highlighted that terrorism, cannot be addressed through security measures only. Member States were called upon to accompany those by preventive plans, including through the media to eradicate terrorism through a culture of dialogue.

38. The Meeting recommended that Member States that do not have adequate legislation or policies in place in areas of mutual legal assistance and extradition be encouraged to speedily prepare and enact such, and to identify the potential need for assistance in the implementation of these policies and/or legislation.

39. The Meeting recommended that Member States should be encouraged to amend their extradition legislation to deal not only with traditional transnational organized crime, but also with new forms of crime, such as piracy and poaching.

40. The Meeting encouraged Member States to simplify their extradition procedures and requirements, revisit the application of the principle of non-extradition of nationals, and extend the granting of extradition on the basis of reciprocity. It also emphasized that criminal laws should be harmonized within and across regions to ensure that lack of dual criminality does not constitute an obstacle to extradition.

41. The Meeting highlighted the establishment of laboratories for forensic analysis as an effective practice to deal with transnational organized crime and the new modus operandi of criminals.

42. The Meeting mentioned the establishment of national coordination committees to deal with transnational organized crime, including emerging forms of crime as a good practice to implement integrated approaches, and to support international cooperation and coordination.

43. The Meeting highlighted the need for evidence and data as far as transnational organized crime patterns and flows are concerned, as well as illicit financial flows on the African continent. The importance of data collection and the establishment of databases was stressed in that regard.

Workshop 2. Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants: successes and challenges in criminalization, in mutual legal assistance and in effective protection of witnesses and trafficking victims

44. The Meeting highlighted the principle of shared responsibility among countries of origin, transit and destination, including the need to share information and provide technical assistance to those Member States that need it, and encouraged continued regional and subregional cooperation in addressing trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. Trafficking in persons should be addressed comprehensively, not only from the supply side but also from the demand side.

45. The Meeting stressed the difficulties in differentiating between trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants and the need to increase the capacity of law enforcement officials, including first responders and border officials to identify victims of trafficking in persons, smuggled migrants, refugees, victims of other crimes in a context of mixed migration flows to ensure appropriate assistance to victims of crime, including trafficking in persons.

46. The Meeting highlighted the need to have a better understanding of key concepts of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, to support criminal justice officials in making the difference between trafficking in persons for labour exploitation and

forced labour, trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation or the exploitation of the prostitution of others.

47. The Meeting underscored the importance of focusing on the human dimension of trafficking in persons and the need to adopt a human rights approach to ensure that victims of trafficking in persons are considered as such, are protected and not prosecuted for crimes committed as a result of being trafficked.

48. The Meeting referred to the need to raise awareness about the goods and/or services produced by victims of trafficking and to the key role the private sector can play in supporting anti-trafficking in persons measures.

49. The Meeting encouraged Member States to develop cooperation, information exchange and technical assistance for Member States that do not have the means to deal with trafficking in persons.

50. Particularly with regards to the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, Member States were encouraged to strengthen inter-agency coordination for a comprehensive approach to tackle the crime involving all relevant national agencies, including those dealing, with financial investigations, corruption, document forgery and border control.

51. The Meeting recommended that Member States consider analysing the links between trafficking in persons and other crimes, including organ trafficking, as well as poverty and armed conflict.

52. The Meeting encouraged Member States to ensure that they have legislation to criminalize trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, in line with the Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Protocols and that they can confiscate the proceeds of these crimes and have efficient mechanisms to arrest criminals.

53. The Meeting recommended that Member States should develop sensitization programmes to educate the general public on trafficking in persons and provide information on how to report this crime.

54. The Meeting recommended that Member States that have victims protection and assistance provisions in different bodies of legislation should consider consolidating these provisions to provide more integrated and consistent assistance to victims of crime including of trafficking in persons. Member States are also encouraged to explore the possibility to develop provisions or mechanisms to deal with voluntary return of victims of trafficking in persons.

3. Item 5 of the agenda of the Congress: Comprehensive and balanced approaches to prevent and adequately respond to new and emerging forms of transnational crime

55. The Meeting emphasized the strong and worrying impact of new forms of transnational crime on the African continent. Financial crime had a particularly negative effect on African countries economies and their emerging financial and banking systems; counterfeiting of various products, including pharmaceuticals and medicines, not only endangered the economies but also the health and security of African citizens; environmental crime, including poaching, illegal fishing, and illicit trafficking in fauna and flora led to the depletion of natural resources by criminal

groups and endangered unique species present on the continent; maritime piracy and related kidnapping and ransoming as a regional and international security threat.

56. Against that background, the Meeting recommended that the 13th Congress consider those emerging crimes as they affect the African continent and mandate UNODC to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States in the African Region, to strengthen, in line with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, their operational capacity to respond to those crimes.

57. The Meeting recalled the potential of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to deal with transnational organized crime in all its forms, including its emerging forms, and provide a framework for Member States to harmonize their legislation and strengthen international cooperation.

58. The Meeting recommended that Member States review their national criminal, procedural and legal frameworks for the investigation and prosecution of new forms of transnational crime, to avoid impunity and eliminate safe havens for such criminal conduct.

59. The Meeting invited Member States to consider in particular drafting legislation focusing on the protection of the environment, criminalizing any activity that damages the environment and set up measures to protect endangered species. In order to support these targeted legislation, Member States may set up specialized units to deal with environmental crime, ensure that awareness is raised and that law enforcement officers be professionally trained on responding to those crimes.

60. The Meeting recommended that Member States enhance national law enforcement, prosecution and judicial capacities, as well as inter-agency and cross-border cooperation in law enforcement and judicial matters.

61. The Meeting urged Member States to combat trafficking in organs, including by preventing and punishing transplant tourism and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, as well as to exchange experience in and information on preventing, combating and criminalizing such trafficking.

62. The Meeting requested the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to turn its attention on the issue of trafficking in organs, including trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal.

63. The Meeting recommended that UNODC work at the regional level through cooperation with existing regional institutions and national authorities to support Member States to deal with emerging forms of transnational organized crime, in particular through the development of regional networks.

64. The Meeting recommended that the approach of developing alternative development programmes be also considered with respect to illicit cannabis cultivation.

65. The meeting also recommended that Member States cooperate with UNODC on a study on firearms so that it is comprehensive and can guide policymakers to prevent and eradicate illicit trafficking in firearms.

66. Acknowledging the difficulties in dealing with evolving forms of crime, the Meeting recommend that donors are called upon to provide technical assistance at

the bilateral or multilateral levels in a more predictable, effective and sustainable manner.

Workshop 3. Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation

67. The Meeting expressed concerns about the increased threat posed by cybercrime including cyber-attacks against national institutions, the private sector and its links to terrorism and transnational organized crime.

68. Taking into consideration the complexity of cybercrime, its links to transnational organized crime, in particular terrorism, the digital divide, and the necessity for all States to cooperate to combat this crime, the Meeting recommended that Member States consider the development of a Convention on Cybercrime in the context of the 13th Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to be held in Doha, Qatar in 2015. The usefulness of such an instrument could include setting universal standards to support the gathering of evidence in cybercrime cases and the admissibility of evidence in court.

69. The Meeting also recommended that a mechanism be set up under the hospices of the ECOSOC and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to provide to Member States a sustainable forum where information and best practices can be exchanged, international cooperation strengthened, awareness raising and technical assistance programmes developed and to discuss the organization of international conferences in that matter.

70. Taking into consideration the crucial matter of the protection of cultural heritage, the Meeting recommended that Member States consider the development of an international convention to address trafficking in cultural property, following the format of the United Nations Conventions against Transnational Organized Crime and Corruption. The Meeting also recommended that information be shared at the 13th Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on existing practices and experiences at the national and international levels.

71. The Meeting recommended that Member States develop, implement and harmonize legislation, as well as adopt comprehensive strategies in response to the problems of trafficking in cultural property and cybercrime, in order to further strengthen the prevention of such crimes, their investigation, prosecution and adjudication and to further strengthen international cooperation. Moreover the Meeting highlighted the need to share practices and experiences in dealing with those crimes at the national and regional levels. The Meeting also underscored the particular threat posed by conflicts to the protection of cultural heritage. They also emphasized the need for legislation and measures to be regularly reviewed and revised to reflect the developments in information communication technologies.

72. The Meeting recommended that Member States intensify regional and international cooperation, including exchanging information, cooperating in the area of technical assistance particularly targeted at those investigating cybercrime. In view of the current lack of data, the Meeting recommended that UNODC carry out a survey of cybercrime to provide comprehensive information to Member States.

73. The Meeting acknowledged that some States identified as a good practice the establishment of specialized units dealing with cybercrime and cultural property, while keeping in mind their links with other forms of transnational organized crime, as well as specialized courts to deal with those crimes.

74. The Meeting recommended that crime prevention programmes and assistance be provided to States involved in conflicts.

4. Item 6 of the agenda of the Congress: National approaches to public participation in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice

75. The meeting recognized the importance of public participation in strengthening crime prevention and underlined, in particular, the relevance of raising public awareness, preventing victimization, and raising public confidence in criminal justice through a more efficient response by the criminal justice system.

76. The meeting highlighted the importance of early prevention efforts, and the importance of prevention measures targeting and using the full potential of families, schools and religious institutions, to address the social and economic root causes of crime such as poverty, unemployment, lack of adequate housing and lack of access to education. The important role of faith-based organizations in preventing crime and radicalization was stressed in this regard. Member States were encouraged to use urban planning and measures to enhance living conditions within a comprehensive approach to crime prevention.

77. The meeting stressed the relevance of neighbourhood and community policing that work closely with citizens in identifying solutions for the prevention of crime and violence, in particular in vulnerable communities, was also recognized. This was viewed as particularly crucial in situations where the State and the police need to regain the trust of communities.

78. The meeting encouraged Member States to build upon existing practices and measures to encourage the public, especially in remote areas, to report and follow-up on crime incidents, including corruption. Such good practices included mechanisms, such as hotlines and mobile offices, for the public to report crime and formulate requests or complaints, to be followed up by the competent authorities.

Workshop 4. Public contribution to crime prevention and raising awareness of criminal justice: experiences and lessons learned

79. The meeting highlighted the importance of a comprehensive crime prevention strategy focusing on primary, secondary and tertiary prevention, based on the models of "social prevention" and "situational prevention".

80. The meeting recommended that, in the implementation of crime prevention activities, Member States should ensure effective citizen participation through partnerships with local communities. In this regard, Member States were invited to consider establishing multidisciplinary committees at the local level and to consider developing mechanisms of online collaboration to enable broader participation. Measures to train and build the capacity and the know-how of all different stakeholders were another crucial element of effective approaches to crime prevention.

81. The meeting underlined the important role that civil society, the private sector and media had to play in contributing to effective crime prevention, as well as the fundamental role of education and youth participation. Member States were invited to dedicate particular attention to the prevention of juvenile delinquency and victimization of children.

82. The Meeting underlined that public education and awareness raising measures should make use of traditional mass media as well as new and social media. Such measures should focus on the dangers posed by criminal activities to the social and economic development of countries and societies at large, as well as on the consequences of engaging in crime to dissuade potential criminals.

83. The meeting recommended that awareness raising measures should convey key values, like the respect for human life, for hard work and merit, as well as common values shared by many African societies, such as the central role of the family. Member States were invited to acknowledge the usefulness and rely upon fora in which communities came together and strengthened their ties.

B. Other issues

84. The representative of Qatar, the host country of the 13th Crime Congress, gave a presentation on the state of progress of all actions required for the timely and efficient preparations for the Congress. In particular, he illustrated the web page dedicated to the 13th Congress in Qatar (www.moi.gov.qa/UNCCPCJDoha/English/).

85. The observer for the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council delivered a presentation on the arrangements to be made, and the facilities to be available, for the organization of the ancillary meetings during the Thirteenth Congress.[1]

III. Attendance and organization of work

A. Date and venue of the Meeting

86. The African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was held in Addis Ababa from 9 to 11 April 2014.

B. Attendance

87. The following member States of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) were represented at the Meeting: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

88. Belarus and Qatar were represented by observers at the Meeting.

[1] Further information is available at www.un-congress.org.

89. The following United Nations entities were represented by observers: UNODC, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

90. The following institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network were represented by observers: United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI), International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (ISPAC).

91. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), League of Arab States (LAS).

92. The following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were represented by observers: International Society for Criminology (ISC), Terre des Hommes Foundation (TdH), [Women's Right to Education Programme (WREP)], World Society for Victimology (WSV).

93. A list of participants was circulated at the Meeting as document A/CONF.222/RPM.4/INF/2.

C. Opening of the Meeting

94. The African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was opened on 9 April 2014 by John Sandage, Director, Division for Treaty Affairs of UNODC. An opening statement was made by the Chairperson, Maryann NJAU-KIMANI (*Kenya*), upon her election.

95. The Secretary of the Regional Preparatory Meeting recalled how the theme of the Thirteenth Crime Congress, its agenda items and workshops had been carefully identified and adopted by the General Assembly with a view to mainstreaming the work and deliberations of the Congress, the only global conference on crime prevention and criminal justice issues, into the overall United Nations development agenda and post-2015 deliberations. In this regard, she highlighted how the Congress theme, its substantive items and workshops were closely interconnected so as to feed each other in an upstream-downstream relationship. With a view to reflecting this close connection between the substantive items and the topics of the workshops, it was proposed to cluster the discussion as follows:

(a) Substantive item 3 ("Successes and challenges in implementing comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and to support sustainable development") was discussed together with workshop 1 ("Role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems: experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders");

(b) Substantive item 4 ("International cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime") was discussed together with workshop 2 ("Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants: successes and

challenges in criminalization, in mutual legal assistance and in effective protection of witnesses and trafficking victims);

(c) Substantive item 5 ("Comprehensive and balanced approaches to prevent and adequately respond to new and emerging forms of transnational crime") was discussed together with workshop 3 ("Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation");

(d) Substantive item 6 ("National approaches to public participation in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice") was discussed with workshop 4 ("Public contribution to crime prevention and raising awareness of criminal justice: experiences and lessons learned").

D. Election of officers

96. At its 1st meeting, on 9 April 2014, the Meeting elected, by acclamation, the following officers:

Chairperson:	Maryann NJAU-KIMANI (Kenya)
Vice-Chairperson:	Nabil HATTALI (Algeria)
Vice-Chairperson:	Omer Ahmed Mohamed AHMED (Sudan)
Vice-Chairperson:	Pierre Nicolas BIAO (Benin)
Rapporteur:	Lillian L. MASHAKA (United Republic of Tanzania)

E. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

97. Also at its 1st meeting, the Meeting adopted its provisional agenda (A/CONF.222/RPM.4/L.1), which read as follows:

1. Opening of the Meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
4. Substantive items on the agenda of the Thirteenth Congress:
   (a) Successes and challenges in implementing comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and to support sustainable development;
   (b) International cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime;
   (c) Comprehensive and balanced approaches to prevent and adequately respond to new and emerging forms of transnational crime;
   (d) National approaches to public participation in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice.

5. Topics to be considered by workshops within the framework of the Thirteenth Congress:

   (a) Role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems: experiences and lessons learned in meeting the unique needs of women and children, in particular the treatment and social reintegration of offenders;

   (b) Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants: successes and challenges in criminalization, in mutual legal assistance and in effective protection of witnesses and trafficking victims;

   (c) Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property, including lessons learned and international cooperation;

   (d) Public contribution to crime prevention and raising awareness of criminal justice: experiences and lessons learned.

6. Recommendations for the Thirteenth Congress.

7. Adoption of the report of the Meeting.

98. At the same meeting, the Meeting approved its organization of work. The list of documents before the Meeting is contained in annex II.

IV. Adoption of the report and closure of the Meeting

99. At its 6th meeting, on 11 April 2014, the Meeting considered and adopted its report (A/CONF.222/RPM.4/L.2), [as orally amended].

Annex I

List of documents

A/CONF.222/PM.1	Discussion guide
A/CONF.222/RPM.4/L.1	Provisional agenda and annotations
A/CONF.222/RPM.4/L.2	Draft report
A/CONF.222/PM/CRP.1	TST Issues Brief: Conflict Prevention, Post-conflict Peacebuilding and the Promotion of Durable Peace, Rule of Law and Governance
A/CONF.222/PM/CRP.2	Accounting for Security and Justice in the Post-2015 Development Agenda